

INTBOLUCTION.

the liberal patronage of the Court
of Directors of the East-India Company enabled
Dr. Max Miiller to undertake his invaluable
edition of the *Rig-Veda*,) a wish was expressed, that its
appearance should be accompanied, or followed, with
all convenient despatch, by an English translation.
As I had long contemplated such a work, and had
made some progress, in its execution, even before
leaving India, I readily undertook to complete my labours
and publish the translation.

It might, else, have been thought
scarcely necessary to repeat a translation of the first
Ashfaka, Ogdoad, or Eighth book, of the *Rig- Veda* ; as that
had been, already, more than once accomplished;
partly, in English, by the Eev. Mr. Stevenson and
Dr. Eoer, and fully, in Latin, by the late Dr. Bosen. A
trans-lation in French, also, by M. Langlois,
extending through four *Ashtakas*, or half the *Veda*,
has been recently published at Paris; but I was not
aware, when I engaged to publish an English
translation, that such a work had been commenced. At the same
time, these

translations do not seem to preclude,
entirely, the use-
fulness of an English version. The earliest
publication,